United Nations A/HRC/30/NGO/5

General Assembly

Distr.: General
1 September 2015

English only

Human Rights Council
Thirtieth session
Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[17 August 2015]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

GE.15-14757(E)

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Abuses of children and women

The current wide and systematic abuses of children and women is unprecedented in the modern history of Bahrain since independence in 1971.Usually women and children were spared abuses in the previous ordeals due to special traditional consideration, but alas. Since 14 Feb.2011 popular uprising women and children have been targeted by the security forces and judiciary. This has been well documented by UN Sp. Rapporteurs, local and international organization. We will focus on the current abuses against women and children.

Women have been un-presciently engaged in the popular movement of 14 Feb. for real reform, democracy, justice and human rights towards constitutional monarchy. Women constitute at least one third of the public in demonstrations and rallies. Women addressed the public for the first time and engaged actively in seminars, conferences and meetings. Notably women acquired bigger share in the leadership of opposition polity and independent civil society. But in all cases, women as men engaged in peaceful protests and mostly in licensed activities.

The Rule has no special regard for women, thus penalized unjustifiably and disproportionately on phony charges, for deeds that are legitimate according to The Constitution of Bahrain and international norms. Some women were shot or suffocated due to gas bombs. Several women have been injured due to pelleted bullets, used against protesters or police assaults during protests, house raids and violent interrogation. Several women have been prosecuted, tried and sentenced on phony charges upon unfair trials. Actually some have been threatened with rape or exposed to molesting and torture. Among those sentenced or in custody awaiting being sentenced are:

1- Ms. RayhanaAlmosawi serving 3 Y imprisonment ,sentenced in 21-4-2014 for alleged testing the security system of Bahrain Circuit for bad design. Ms. Almosawi testified before the court that she was stripped off cloth during interrogation.
2- Ms. NafesaAlasfoor , was arreste and sentenced with Ms. RayhanaAlmosawi for the same charge,who were released recently
3- Ms.AyatAlsafar
4- Ms. Zahra Alshaikh, with her infant child with health problems
5- Ms. Mariam Sahwan, arrested in house dawn raid recently and still incustody
6- MsJalilasayed Amin arrested in house dawn raid recently and still in custody
7- Ms. Maryam Almarzooq, 40 Y, with 7 children ,arrested on 16-2-2015,on charge of hiding wanted defendant, where actually 2 were arrested at the roof of her without her consent roof.

8- Ms. ZaenabAbdulhadeAlkhawaja who served 6 months on charge of unlicensed assembly , and who was detained but released due to giving birth, but awaits another trial on charge of entering sanctioned place.Actually she entered Jao Prison insisting on visit of her jailed father MrAbdlhadialkhawja, HRD, sentenced for life imprisonment.
9- Ms Maryam AbdulhadiAlkhawaja, sister of Zaenab, who awaits trial in absentee, on charge of slandering the state

B) Abuses Against Children

The Penal Law, consider 16 Y child as adult while The Law against Terrorism consider felonies such as throwing rocks or burning tires as serious terrorist crime punishable between 3-10 Y imprisonment , where even children under 16 According to local sources there are more than 140 detained children, under 18 Y age. Those above 16Y are imprisoned with adults, while those above 16Y are imprisoned separately. These are students at deferent stages, intermediate, secondary and vocational schools. Many has been denied of regular studies, training and setting for exams. Worse, once convicted, defendantscan not resume study at previous school or any official school.
In most cases, the arrest is at home, without judicial warrant, using force against defendant and relatives, interrogation in absence of defendant lawyer, trial in absence of relatives, visitation is scarce, and abuses in detention is common.

Children are prosecuted according to Anti-Terror Law, and not Juvenile Law, thus could be kept in custody for 45 days, awaiting trial with rare opportunity to meet parents, then tried before the minor court and not Juvenal Court, and could be sentence to 10 Y imprisonment, for minor charges such as throwing rocks or burning tires.

Several children were injured during protest or even close to protests areas ,where police shoot at protesters upper body, using shotguns and gas bombs. The latest victims are MohmdMahdiAlsawd, shot at forehead with deep injury

Minors Causalities of Shot Guns
1-Yaser MonerAlSowaikh, .980110190, 31-1-2015. Detained
2-Ali AbduljalilMarhoon, , 04031008, 23-1-2015
3- Mohamd Mahdi Alsawa, ,02401833, 23-1-2015
4-Hasan Ali Alnoaimi, ,980509319, 13-1-2015
5-Mohamd Jawad Alhawi, .011107499, 1-2-2015

Names of some Detainees and Condemners children
Name of detainee: Ali Abdul Al-Halim Ali Maki Omran
CPR: 970402686
Date of Birth: 10/04/1997
Contacts Numbers: 39565695
Date of Violation: 25/01/2015
District: Nuwaidrat
Academic Level: Intermediate School - second year

Name of detainee:Qasim Mohammed Ameen Hussain Adhrabooh
CPR: 970800851
Date of Birth: 03/08/1997
Contacts Numbers: 39984042/39586655
Date of Violation: 25/01/2015
District: Sitra "wadian"
Academic Level: Secondary School - Third year

Name of detainee: Sayed Ali Mustafa Hussain shabar
CPR: 980208890
Date of Birth: 28/02/1998
Contacts Numbers: 33211903
Date of Violation: 25/01/2015
District: Sitra
Academic Level: Secondary "Industrial education" - second year

Name of detainee: Shaker Hassan Ahmed Al-A'ali
CPR: 970105452
Date of Birth: 27/01/1997
Contacts Numbers: 37772313
Date of Violation: 12/02/2015

Name of detainee: Ahmed Khalil Ibrahim Ali Hassan
CPR: 950502162
Contacts Numbers: 33099534
Date of Violation: 13/03/2013

Name of detainee:Mahmood Naji Ali Yassein Al-Darwish
CPR: 971209197
Contacts Numbers: 34356125
Date of Violation: 15/01/2014